

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 12 and 15-17 are pending in this application.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 12 and 15-17 as allowed per the Notice of Allowance dated on March 22, 2004, have been carefully reviewed, and Applicants note that claim 1 contains a minor error that needs to be corrected prior to issuance. Specifically, independent claim 1 contains a passage in duplicate. As a result, independent claim 1 has been amended to delete this duplicated passage.

In view of the foregoing reasons and explanations, Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendment to claim 1 be entered, since no new matter has been introduced, and no new issue has been raised.

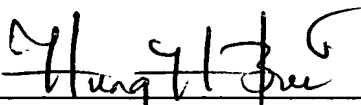
In view of the foregoing amendments, arguments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition to be passed to issue. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' attorney at the Washington DC area office at (703) 312-6600.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, No. 01-2135 (Application No. 500.37156CX1), and please credit any excess fees to said deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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By


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